

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus, comprising:

a subject;

an observer ~~associated with the subject and~~ adapted to generate configuration information, the configuration information comprising an attribute of the observer; and

~~a transmission manager associated with an aspect object created by the observer and~~

~~adapted for attachment to the subject, the transmission manager aspect object further~~

adapted to receive the configuration information from the observer and to selectively

communicate ~~the~~ update information to the observer based on the configuration

information.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the configuration information includes a desired type indication.

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the ~~transmission manager aspect object~~ selectively discards the update information in response to the desired type indication.

4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the attribute of the observer includes a communication speed indication.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 4, ~~wherein the transmission manager further comprising an accumulator that~~ accumulates the update information in response to the communication speed indication.

6. (Cancelled)

1 7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the subject generates the state change
2 indication and communicates the state change incitation to the ~~transmission manager~~ aspect
3 object.

1 8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, ~~wherein the transmission manager further~~
2 ~~comprising a preprocessor that~~ selectively modifies the update information in response to the
3 configuration information.

1 9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
2 a first processor;
3 a first memory coupled to the first processor, wherein the subject and the ~~transmission~~
4 ~~manager~~ aspect object reside within the first memory;
5 a second processor; and
6 a second memory coupled to the second processor, wherein the observer resides within
7 the second memory.

1 10. (Currently Amended) A distributed computer system, comprising:
2 a) a subject code segment resident on a first computer node, the subject code segment
3 adapted to produce an update message;
4 b) an observer resident on a second computer node, the first computer node being in
5 operable communication with the second computer node; and
6 c) an aspect ~~object created by the observer and attached to~~ object ~~coupled between the subject~~
7 ~~code segment and the observer, the aspect~~ object ~~configured to detect information~~
8 ~~associated with~~ receive the update message ~~from the subject code segment~~ and to
9 selectively communicate ~~an update from the subject~~ update information to the observer
10 based at least in part upon an attribute of the observer and the ~~detected~~ received
11 information.

1 11. (Currently Amended) The distributed computer system of claim 10, wherein the subject
2 code segment comprises a network management software program, and wherein the observer
3 code segment comprises a graphical user interface.

1 12. (Cancelled)

1 13. (Currently Amended) A method of communicating updates from a subject to an observer,
2 comprising:

3 in an observer, generating instructions to create an aspect object;

4 communicating configuration information from the observer to ~~an~~ the aspect object, the
5 configuration information comprising an attribute of the observer;

6 attaching the aspect object to a subject;

7 notifying the aspect object of an update;

8 interrogating the update to generate to generate update information; and

9 selectively communicating the update to the observer based on a comparison between the
10 update information and the configuration information.

1 14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising selectively modifying the
2 update information based on a comparison between the update ~~information~~ and the configuration
3 information.

1 15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising accumulating the update
2 information based on ~~a comparison between the update information and the configuration~~
3 information.

1 16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising sending updated
2 configuration information from the observer to the aspect object, wherein the updated
3 configuration information comprises an updated attribute of the observer.

1 17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the updated attribute of the
2 observer includes a system load indication.

1 18. (Cancelled)

1 19. (Currently Amended) A computer program product, comprising:

2 (a) a program configured to perform a method of controlling updates between a subject
3 and an observer, the method comprising:

4 in an observer, generating instructions to create an aspect object;

5 1) communicating configuration information from the observer to ~~an~~ the aspect
6 object, the configuration information comprising an attribute of the observer;

7 attaching the aspect object to a subject;

8 2) notifying the aspect object of an update;

9 3) interrogating the update to generate to generate update information; and

10 4) selectively communicating the update to the observer based on a comparison
11 between the update information and the configuration ~~information~~ information;

12 and

13 (b) a signal bearing media bearing the program.

1 20. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein the method further comprises
2 selectively modifying the update based on a comparison between the update information and the
3 configuration information.

1 21. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein the method further comprises
2 accumulating the update information based on a comparison between the update information and
3 the configuration information.

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1 22. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein the method further comprises
2 sending updated configuration information from the observer to the aspect.

1 23. (Currently Amended) A method of maintaining data consistency between a subject object on
2 a first computer system and an observer object on a second computer system, comprising:

3 a) in an observer object, generating instructions to create an aspect object;

4 b) communicating configuration information from the observer object to the aspect
5 object, the configuration information including a desired type indicator and a desired
6 communication rate indicator;

7 c) attaching the aspect object to the subject object; and

8 d) in response to a state change indication from the subject:

9 1) sending an update to the aspect;

10 2) interrogating the update to generate an update type indicator;

11 3) modifying the update based on a comparison between the update type indicator
12 and the desired type indicator to produce a modified update;

13 4) sending the modified update to an accumulator;

14 5) using the desired communication rate indicator to determine whether the object
15 is ready to receive the modified update; and

16 6) communicating the modified update to the observer.

Please add the following new claims:

1 24. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein subject comprises an object and wherein the
2 observer comprises an object.

1 25. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein subject comprises an object and wherein the
2 observer comprises an object.

- 1 26. (New) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein subject comprises an object and
2 wherein the observer comprises an object.